

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02

AID-05 OMB-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03

PRS-01 SAM-01 /074 W

----- 128044

R 200755Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3519

INFO SECDEF WASHDC//ISA//

CNO WASHDC//OP63//

USCINCEUR//ECJ4/7-SAME//

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3420

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KU

SUBJ: HARPOON AND NAVY

REF: A. KUWAIT 5485 DTG 291007Z DEC 74

B. KUWAIT 2040 DTG 140405Z MAY 75

C. KUWAIT 3421 DTG 200800Z AUG 75

D. KUWAIT 4197 DTG 300433Z SEP 74

1. REFTEL A PROVIDED A SUMMARY OF GOK COMMITMENT TO FORM A NAVY, GOK INTEREST IN FAST MISSILE-EQUIPPED PATROL BOATS AND EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION THAT USG INFORM GOK THAT USG IS WILLING IN PRINCIPLE TO ASSIST GOK IN ESTABLISHING A NAVY (INCLUDING HIGH-SPEED MISSILE-EQUIPPED PATROL CRAFT) AND THAT USG RECOMMENDS A JOINT GOK-USG TEAM TO DEFINE AND PLAN THE NAVAL PROGRAM.

2. REFTEL B PROVIDES TEXT OF MINDEF SHAIKH SA'AD'S FORMAL REQUEST FOR "OFFERS" TO SUPPLY THEM WITH 15 SMALL SHIPS.

3. I HAVE NOW RECEIVED ANOTHER REQUEST (REFTEL C) FROM MINDEF FOR HARPOON.

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4. MY UNDERSTANDING OF USG POSITION IS THAT THERE IS NO RPT NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO ACQUISITION OF HARPOON MISSILE BY KUWAIT, BUT THAT ANY OFFER OF THIS WEAPON TO GOK MUST AWAIT CONCLUSION OF USG MIDEAST POLICY REASSESSMENT. NEVERTHELESS, WE NEED TO PROVIDE MINDEF WITH SOME INTERIM REPLY SOON, AND WE SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT GOK INTEREST IN MAJOR US ASSISTANCE WITH KUWAITI NAVAL PROGRAM IS DEPENDENT ON OUR WILLINGNESS PROVIDE HARPOON. HOPE THEREFORE OUR INTERIM REPLY CAN BE COUCHED IN AS ENCOURAGEING TERMS AS POSSIBLE.

5. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS.
STOLTZFUS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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